

Energy Committee Meeting Minutes
December 5th, 7:00pm
Old schoolhouse common & zoom

Members In attendance: Anne Miller, Ellen Keene, Nick Seifert, Mike Xenakis, Wes Cate
Public: Bob Buchanan

Agenda:

- Public Comments
- Announcements
 - VECAN this weekend, still time to register
 - <https://vecan.net/15th-annual-vecan-conference-2022/>
 - They are putting on a series of webinars M-F of that same week.
- Agenda modifications
 - Made below.
- Approval of previous minutes
 - Motioned, seconded and approved.
- Business:
 - Plainfield Update
 - Bob not present, no updates this time.
 - Update for town report discussion
 - Brief discussion about this.
 - Anne suggests including information about what we've been working on, the Upper Winooski Community Solar.
 - Ellen mentioned the building committee at OSC.
 - Membership solicitation, or ad-hoc to get involved with specific activities.
 - Not sure when this is due, likely very soon.
 - Funding opportunities
 - EV Charging station grants?
 - Nick reached out to Sam, have not yet heard back.
 - Electric buses
 - Some progress here, Nick working with Mark.
 - Nick to look into dates and what is the next major decision to make. Mostly Mark is working on this, but
 - Food shelf funding
 - Anne gave a brief update here. Glen (from the food shelf) has received multiple grants to build this. Anne is now helping to get him in touch with a contractor to help build this refrigerated room.
 - OSC Building committee
 - Mike gave an update. They went through the survey about the old schoolhouse common and uses of the building. Some work still to fully understand surveys to be done. Mike was part of the committee that went around and looked at the building, and understanding the deferred maintenance that is needed. They also talked about getting

the energy audit done soon. There are some issues with both the oil and pellet boiler, which are under discussion.

- Mike is going to reach out to Building Energy to get a quote for weatherization. He is also planning to reach out to Sam Lash and see what opportunities are out there for municipalities.
- Anne mentioned that Efficiency VT usually has incentives for municipalities.
- Mike doesn't yet have a clear sense of where the recommendations will be towards (deferred maintenance vs other projects).
- The Community Supper group is likely to get a grant to fund some appliances, somewhat smaller things like a dishwasher, fridge, etc. More to come on this.
- Mike mentioned that the picnic shelter project at the community center is being put out for bid by the selectboard, so this is moving now.
- Weatherization?
 - Home performance with energy star - up to 75% of project cost, \$2000- \$5000 range of reimbursement. This can cover a lot of the cost of the work. Covers air barrier, labor, some materials (but not others!)
 - Mike mentioned Efficiency VT has the free kit with shower head, light bulbs, etc.
 - Multi-unit discussion webinar by VECAN
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApdu6urj4jGNRJtghVCII1GcEzn-nBDxBU>
 - Ellen gave a brief update on the work she had done for rental properties in the village. Some were single family, some were multi-family. Rich and Ellen wrote a letter, and sent those out. One person got back to them, Nick and Ellen met with him to discuss options.
 - Nick suggested re-sending those letters this year to the same landlords, to try and get their attention again.
 - Ellen mentioned window-dressers. There is a group in Montpelier that does it, but nothing closer. Then a volunteer group will help to build them. They help reduce heat loss, and Mike indicated they are a good way to help old windows. Ellen is going to investigate if there would be an opportunity to do something with this group here.
 - <https://windowdressers.org/>
- Upper Winooski Community Solar
 - Ellen reached out to Catamount Solar to look at the 4 potential sites they have been considering. The hope was to have them evaluate the sites using google maps/satellite photos. Ellen is waiting to hear back from him.
- Town Plan update
 - No updates here. Waiting to hear back from Sam Lash.
- Marshfield Solar update
 - No updates at this time. Waiting for the GMP updates on solar reimbursement to kick in at the beginning of 2023.
- Marshfield Dam
 - Monday, Thursday, Friday for Wes.

- Monday for Mike.
- Anne has some flexibility, as does Nick.
- Nick will let the group know what date this is happening.

- Appreciation event/gesture for Rich.
 - Nick reached out to Rich, and he was doing ok. But not planning to get back into committee work.
 - Mike / Ellen suggested a dedication plaque on the picnic shelter in his name.
 - Possible potluck in the summer?

- Tentative agenda for next time:
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 - Plainfield Update
 - Update for town report discussion and/or dates to submit this
 - Funding opportunities
 - EV Charging station grants?
 - Electric buses?
 - Food shelf funding?
 - OSC Building committee?
 - Weatherization?
 - Upper Winooski Community Solar
 - Town Plan update
 - Marshfield Solar update
 - Marshfield Dam
 - Appreciation event/gesture for Rich.

Join Zoom Meeting

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<https://zoom.us/join>

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